



Behaviour support at Castle School



Introduction

At Castle School we encounter many different types of behaviour. Some of these behaviours can be challenging because they:

- prevent the person exhibiting the behaviour from learning
- prevent other pupils from learning
- can cause upset, disruption or injury



A positive approach

Whatever the behaviour, our approach is fundamentally the same. We treat the behaviour as a communication of unmet needs. These needs can be:

- emotional
- social
- physical
- related to communication
- cognitive
- sensory

We know if we can help the child meet these needs, the behaviour will improve



Teaching the whole child

Once we know what skills the child needs to learn to replace the need for challenging behaviour, we make those skills part of the curriculum for the child. We use SCERTS targets, for example, to promote social, communication and emotional regulation skills.



Staff expertise

Class teams are supported to develop environments where children can feel safe and calm, and where they can learn new skills in a supported environment. We identify the causes for challenging behaviour, and put in interventions to help prevent and/or manage the behaviour in such a way that the child can learn at their own pace to regulate themselves.



Partnership

We understand that helping children improve the way they approach their lives is going to be a team effort. We make it a priority to work with parents and carers as openly and as closely as possible. Often there is an element of trial and error in the work we do, and it is important for everyone to have the confidence to be able to say what is working and what needs changing. We also recognise that children can sometimes display very different behaviours at school than they do at home, often for reasons that are nothing to do with the support they get in either location.

We also work closely with a wide variety of other professionals - the more help we can get, the greater the chance of progress.



Changing behaviour can be difficult, but we can all learn.

In summary, we know that some of the behaviours some of our pupils present with can be very challenging, and cause themselves and/or others some distress. We try to provide support that is as sensitive as it is effective, but we also know that sometimes the answer will take time and effort to materialise.



Further Information and Support

If you have any concerns or queries about behaviour support at Castle, or if you would like advice about behaviour management at home, please do not hesitate to get in touch.